(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) A Comprehensive Policy Package has been announced on 30th August, 2000 which *inter-alia* includes easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

(c) and (d) The initiatives announced under the package have already been implemented by way of implementing policies and programmes which include enhancement of excise exemption limit for SSI to Rs. 1 crore, implementing credit linked capital subsidy scheme for technological upgradation, increase in the composite loan limit to Rs. 25 lakhs, continuation of ISO 9000 Scheme in 10th Plan and extending it to ISO 14001, Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme to cover all areas, increase in project limit under National Equity Fund to Rs. 50 lakhs, implementation of Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme, etc.

De-reservation of items

3104. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering another 30-40 items to be dereserved by the end of this fiscal year;

(b) if so, what are the details of these items to be de-reserved;

(c) whether Government are also considering to increase investment limits for another three-four sectors;

(d) if so, the items on which limits of investment has been increased; and

(e) to what extent this decision would help the small scale industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The issue of

reservation/de-reservation of items for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector is examined on a continual basis by the Government and is based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee constituted under the Industries Development & Regulation Act, 1951. In addition, the Ministry of Small Scale Industries also consults stakeholders regarding various entries in the list. Items are considered for dereservation based on such reviews and consultations.

(c) Government have tabled a draft order in the Rajya Sabha on 23.7.2002 seeking to raise the SSI investment ceiling from Rs. one crore to Rs. five crores in respect of ten products in the drugs and pharmaceuticals sector. In addition the list also includes 13 products in the stationary sector.

(d) Government has increased the investment ceiling of 41 items from Rs. one crore to five crores in respect of knitwear and handtool sectors *vide* notification no. SO. 1013 (E) dated 9th October, 2001.

(e) This will help SSI units to enhance their competitiveness both domestic and export market through facilitating technological upgradation and adoption of international quality standards.

Satellite based telemedicine

3105. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the satellite based telemedicine is picking up very well;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) proposes to launch a satellite exclusively for health care; and

(c) if so, the details of ISRO's plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Preliminary studies in this regard have been taken up.